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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Albrecht et al.

Serial No.: 09/748,642

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PROTEASES

Examiner: K. Lacourciere 5/2/02

Art Unit:1635

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## **AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the October 23, 2002 office action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

## In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 9 and cancel claims 5, 13 and 17 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A method of decreasing viral replication in cells, the method comprising decreasing levels of functional cellular protease in the cells by exposing the cells to an inhibitor of the functional cellular protease, wherein the viral replication is caused by a DNA virus.
- 9. (Amended) A method of treating a viral infection in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject an amount of a compound effective to decrease levels of functional cellular protease in cells of the subject wherein the viral infection is caused by a DNA virus and the compound is an inhibitor of the functional cellular protease.